GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1718
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2006
NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR FARMERS
Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the National Commission for Farmers headed by Dr. M.S. Swaminathan has suggested the setting up of National Food Security and Sovereignty Board; and

(b) If so, the details thereof indicating the constitution and functions of the Board ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a)&(b) : Yes, Sir. The National Commission on Farmers has recommended the setting up of National Food Security and Sovereignty Board with the Prime Minister as its Chairman and Union Minister of Agriculture, Finance, Rural Development, Water Resources, Panchayati Raj, Commerce and Environment, Leaders of all political parties, Chief Ministers of few States as Members and an eminent professional in the area of Food Security as Member Secretary.

Its major functions would include operation of Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Public Distribution System (PDS) and the maintenance of food Security reserves, review of growth rate in agriculture and horticulture and provide oversight to issues such as diversion of prime farmland for non-farm purposes.